

Dr. Ilan Kroo is the Thomas V. Jones Professor of Aeronautics and Astronautics and Director of the Aircraft Aerodynamics and Design Group at Stanford University. From 2010 to 2015 he was the founding CEO of Zee.Aero (now KittyHawk), a company developing electric VTOL aircraft, returning to Stanford in his current position. Professor Kroo consulted for several companies and government agencies including Aerion Corporation and Desktop Aeronautics. Between 1982 and 1985 he served as a Research Scientist in the Advanced Aerodynamic Concepts Branch at NASA's Ames Research Center. Dr. Kroo has over 150 publications in the fields of aircraft design, multidisciplinary optimization, and aviation and the environment, including 9 granted patents on supersonic aircraft concepts and personal air vehicles.

Dr. Kroo has served on many panels and committees advising the U.S. government, industry, and academia. He is currently a member of the National Academies of Sciences Aeronautics and Space Engineering Board (ASEB) and the AIAA Aircraft Design Technical Committee. He has won many awards for his work in aircraft design including the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) Lawrence Sperry Award, the Dryden Lectureship in Research, and the Multidisciplinary Optimization Award. Dr. Kroo is a member of the U.S. National Academy of Engineering and Fellow of the AIAA. He received B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. degrees from Stanford University.